

The House Beautiful.

George C. Carey has recently moved into his new house on upper Main street and has unquestionably one of the handsomest residences in St. Johnsbury. The architect was John Houghton of New York and the house was built under the supervision of James M. Foye, one of the best carpenters in this section. It is a commodious 2 1/2 story structure standing north of D. D. Patterson's house. The exterior differs little from ordinary houses, but the interior has the finest workmanship and nicest materials that could be found.

Entering the parlor one finds himself in a cozy room, 16 by 17 feet in size, whose most noticeable feature is a circular seat by the round bay window. The room is finished in red birch and the hardwood floor is of white birch with a border of red birch. The fireplace is made of Ohio fire brick, and the wall paper and draperies are harmonized to the finish of the room. Opening out of the parlor is the sitting room, of the same size and finish as the other room.

Across the hall is the dining room, 12 by 18 feet. Here the finish is quartered oak with beautiful panelling. The floor is the same as in the other rooms. The kitchen is finished in paneled white wood and the pantry and butler's room have all the conveniences that bring joy and comfort to a model housekeeper. The hall is finished in oak and the stairs are made of oak.

The five bedrooms upstairs are all finished in white wood with hardwood floors. In one of the bedrooms is a fireplace. The conveniences on this floor include a chute to the laundry in the cellar and a capacious linen closet. The bathrooms have tiled on the ceilings and side walls, finished in white enamel.

The quartered oak panelling was finished by T. D. Cox in C. R. Lynch's shop, the doors were furnished by A. L. Bragg, Johnson & Arnold did the house decorating, and the wall paper and draperies were furnished by the Brooks-Tyler Dry Goods Company. The house is heated by a Richmond steam boiler, and the heating and plumbing, which is of the most modern and sanitary style, was put in by C. H. Goss.

Odd Fellows Night.

Nearly all the lodges of the 6th Odd Fellows district were represented at the district meeting held with Caledonia Lodge, No. 6, at Odd Fellows Temple Wednesday evening under the direction of Lieut. E. H. Bazin, D. D. G. M. About 200 members of the fraternity were present and the program was carried out practically as published last week. C. W. Farrand, scribe of the grand encampment, welcomed the guests, and Grand Master W. L. Haven of Chester Depot, responded. Temple Lodge, of Wells River, exemplified the work of the initiatory degree in a manner that elicited much praise from all. This was followed by criticisms and an exemplification of the unwritten work by the grand master. Then came the banquet served in the style that always characterizes the work of Olive Branch Lodge, D. R., in this line. Col. O. H. Henderson presided as toastmaster and the speakers were: Grand Master Haven; Grand Warden F. B. Morton, St. Albans; Grand Secretary H. E. Parker, Bradford; District Deputy E. H. Bazin, West Concord; Grand Scribe C. W. Farr, St. Johnsbury; Rev. J. B. Ballenger, Wells River; Judge S. J. Hastings, Passumpsic, and several others.

The Odd Fellows Field Day association held its meeting the same evening and elected these officers for the ensuing year: President, O. H. Henderson; vice presidents, W. R. Noyes, West Burke; F. J. Willey, Lyndonville; J. A. Beck, St. Johnsbury; E. H. Bazin, West Concord; J. G. Roy, Barnet; F. E. Stevens, Wells River; H. E. Parker, Bradford; J. A. King, Groton; W. S. Bailey, East Hardwick; C. P. King, Hardwick; secretary George Whitting, St. Johnsbury; treasurer H. J. Beck, St. Johnsbury. It is the intention of these officers to make the next annual field day a greater success than ever.

Gleaned from the Magazines.

A recent number of the Youth's Companion contained an advertisement of their paper the picture of the late Richard W. Peabody reading the first number of the Youth's Companion. This was first published last spring with an interesting sketch and by the courtesy of the Youth's Companion was reprinted in the CALEDONIAN of March 26.

Russell Sturges contributes to the October Scribner's an appreciative tribute to the work of the famous sculptor, J. Q. A. Ward. Among the mention of the busts of Mr. Ward's is that of the bust of Gov. Horace Fairbanks in the Athenaeum.

The first prize in the outdoor photographic contest of the Ladies' Home Journal is a picture of the Fairbanks home-stand at Dedham, Mass. The picture occupies a prominent position in the November number of the Ladies' Home Journal.

The November number of the Woman's Home Companion contains several of the pictures taken from the photographs which Rev. Dr. Wallace Nutting took here this summer. George W. Young is easily recognized in three of them and they make a notable contribution to the Thanksgiving number.

Union Mission Studies.

The sixth and last of the union mission studies in Via Christi, will occur Tuesday, Nov. 4, at 3 p. m., in the chapel of Grace Methodist church. Subject: Halle Missionaries to Carey and Judson, Eighteenth to Nineteenth Century.

Following is the program: Some Missionary Organizations of the Era and their Achievements, Mrs. P. F. Hazen.

Missions to the Indians, Mrs. R. L. Dunton.

The Story of Christ in Art, Mrs. W. S. Boynton.

Some Notable Women of the Period, Mrs. Sarah H. Nelson.

One Noted Man and his Revival—John Wesley, Mrs. Lydia Beck.

All ladies are most cordially welcome. Will please note change of day and hour—Tuesday, at three o'clock.

The Stephens-Peckham Wedding.

A recent number of the Colorado Springs Gazette contains an extended account of the wedding of Gertrude Eleanor Stephens, formerly teacher of elocution in the academy, and Dr. Herbert Edmund Peckham which occurred in that city October 14. The novelty of the ceremony has attracted much attention and its details will be of interest to the brides friends here.

The ceremony was a thorough innovation and much more lengthy than usual, occupying nearly half an hour. It was pronounced within the altar rail and the bridal party numbering 15, faced the assembly throughout.

An unique and beautiful order of service was composed by the groom, the idea originating with the bride. The service has been copyrighted and will be issued in book form. Quite a large portion was pronounced by the bride and groom. It began with the quotation of Isaiah 60:1 by the minister. Then in eloquent sentences the groom spoke of their high ideals of marriage and dedicated himself to her whom he had chosen as his wife and presented her with a white lily, emblem, in its whiteness, of a blameless life. He expressed the wish that the spotless creation of the infinite goodness might prove a reminder of a love, reverence and devotion—one for all eternity.

A similar dedicatory recitative ensued from the bride full of fervor and fealty, during which a pink rose was given to the groom, an emblem of glowing heart-felt love. At one point in the service the bride very beautifully recited the New Testament chapter commencing, "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels and have not love." A peculiar feature of the service was the omission of all promises and no reference was made to poverty, sickness nor death. The minister by virtue of one recognized by the church laws as ordained of God to sanction the union, announced the agreement between the contracting parties as binding and valid. As a bridal hymn a quartet of young girls sang sweetly a favorite of the mother of the bride, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds," while the bride and groom clasped hands.

An exquisite gown of white satin de chine, train and long train, was worn by the bride. The circular skirt was cut in shallow scallops. On each scallop was applied a Duchess lace flower. This garniture fell over a ruff of cream Brussels net edged with a tiny band of the same. The bodice of satin had insets of the net elaborately applied and the yolk was of net and applique. The sleeves fell in two drooping puffs and there was a full fall of the lace and applique from the elbow.

A very artistic effect was given to the dress by French orange and yellow, the bridesmaid from the selection of the colors, green, yellow, pink and blue, suggesting the rainbow tints. The flowers employed in the service were borne by two of the maids.

To each bridesmaid the bride presented a ring containing a stone of the hue of her gown and to the choir girls, a souvenir spoon.

Dr. and Mrs. Peckham will reside in Colorado Springs.

Mr. Henderson's Display Wins a Prize.

Prizes for flower displays at Boston & Maine railroad stations for the season of 1902 have been awarded and the Passumpsic division comes in for a fair share of the awards. Station Agent Henderson's attractive display of a floral even balance brought a 5th class prize of \$15. In the 6th class, prize \$10, Barton Landing, Bradford, Fairlee and South Barton were among the fortunate, and Barton, Coventry, South Newbury and Summit were among the 146 stations drawing a 7th class prize of \$5. The 1st class prize of \$50 went to Waltham, Mass., and the 2nd class prize of \$40, to Arlington, Mass. In all 263 prizes were awarded amounting to \$2350, and this is in addition to furnishing from \$5 to \$10 worth of plants in the spring to each station agent desiring to make a display. The surroundings of the stations on the entire system have been wonderfully improved by this liberal policy of the road, and residents of the various towns as well as travellers owe a debt of gratitude for these hundreds of beauty spots scattered all over New England. For next year Mr. Henderson has planned a more elaborate display and already has had the gift of a large quantity of bulbs from M. H. Wilcox of Brooklyn, formerly of this place. Just what the scheme is to be Mr. Henderson does not say but it is easy to predict that the idea of the scale will be the central feature of it.

Habits of the Beaver.

The observations of W. E. Balch of Lunenburg, the museum taxidermist, concerning the habits of the beaver incidental to his much-discussed photographs of these animals in their native haunts, are to be used as a part of a book on the beaver by Joseph Bunner, a member of the German Forestry commission, who is now studying animal life in this country. It will be remembered that when Mr. Balch's beaver group picture was first published, claims were made that the animals shown were not alive, and that certain statements he made about the habits of the beaver were wrong. Mr. Bunner confirms Mr. Balch's statements, however, and has corresponded extensively with him concerning the matter, urging him to secure more pictures for his forthcoming work which Mr. Balch is very desirous of doing, but finds he is unable to go into the woods this fall for the purpose. Mr. Bunner has succeeded in securing six single photographs of live beavers during his stay in America, but has been unable to secure a group. He is now in Montana.

Neighborhood Meeting.

The ladies of the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the South church will hold a neighborhood meeting at their vestry on Friday afternoon at two o'clock. The churches of Lyndon, Barnet, Danville, Waterford, St. Johnsbury East, St. Johnsbury Center, and the North church will be represented.

The Wheelock Association.

The Wheelock Association of Free Baptist churches met with the church at North Danville last week, opening on Tuesday afternoon and closing Thursday evening.

A very cordial welcome was extended the visiting delegates by the pastor and his people, and the session was one of deep interest from the commencement to the close.

The opening sermon was preached by Rev. J. W. Burgin of Hardwick. Tuesday evening was devoted to the Woman's Missionary Society, and a very interesting paper was read by Mrs. E. C. Grant of St. Johnsbury. Rev. B. P. Parker of Newbury Center preached the sermon Wednesday forenoon, and Rev. Mr. Gray of Carroll, N. H., preached in the afternoon. The evening service was given to the work of the Young People's societies. Rev. O. Roys led a spirited prayer meeting at 7 o'clock, and Rev. E. Newell delivered an ab'e address at 8 o'clock upon "The Bible." Rev. A. Shepherd, the oldest pastor in Vermont, 91 years of age, preached a strong spiritual sermon Thursday forenoon. It was an unusual and interesting sight to see Rev. Mr. Shepherd and Rev. Mr. Henderson of St. Johnsbury, whose combined ages are 174 years, in the pulpit together. They have been acquainted and labored together, more or less, for over 60 years.

Rev. F. P. Wormwood of Franconia preached Thursday afternoon and John P. Thurston preached an able sermon to close the session in the evening.

During the session Rev. E. C. Clarke resigned as secretary and treasurer as he is about leaving the association, and Rev. R. L. Dunton of St. Johnsbury was elected to these offices.

Reception at Manila.

The Manila Cable News gives an interesting account of the recent reception tendered Gov. Tait by Commissioner Ide and his daughter and in the 100 or more guests present were represented the elite of Manila society. The paper says:

"The reception given by Mr. and Miss Ide to Governor Tait was another of the charming successes of this very brilliant season. The house and grounds were profusely decorated with the ever beautiful potted palms, fronds and Chinese lanterns. A covered passage from the entrance was formed of canvas, completely hidden by festoons of battery green, hung with lanterns of varied hues, not only beautiful but affording protection from the frequent showers so prevalent at this season. The receiving party were Mr. and Miss Ide, Mrs. Wright, and the guest of honor, Gov. Tait. Miss Ide's gown was a charming creation of white, unrelieved by any color, which only served to heighten her Gibson style of beauty. Mrs. Wright was handsomely gowned in black with white lace and red trimmings.

Champagne punch and other cooling drinks, and a delicious supper were served all through the evening. The 2nd Infantry band furnished the music and dancing followed the reception."

Epworth League Carnival.

Arrangements have been completed and the dates set for the annual carnival of the Epworth League which will be greater this year than ever before. The carnival will be held at the Armory and the dates are December 11, 12 and 13 afternoons and evenings. The Boston Decorating Company will have charge of the decorations, etc. The "Congress of Nations" will be a leading feature this year and the different booths with their attendants and decorations will represent the various nations of the earth. This decorative scheme will be carried out throughout the hall and no effort will be spared to make this one of the finest exhibits of the decorator's art ever seen here. In connection with the afternoon concert there will be cooking lectures and demonstrations by Miss Marion Dean Patterson assisted by Miss Marjorie Peabody. The evening entertainments will be on a greater scale than ever, beginning with a local entertainment the first evening, followed by the Marshalls, the Boston entertainers, and the last evening Prof. Brignati, the well-known Boston magician, will appear. Special features will be announced from time to time.

Dr. Roads at Grace Church.

There were two meetings at Grace Methodist church yesterday in the interest of Sunday school work. The speaker at both meetings was Rev. Charles Roads, D. D. of Philadelphia, field worker of the Sunday School Union of the Methodist church. At the afternoon meeting Dr. Roads spoke on "What is a Comprehensive and effective Organization of the Primary Department of the Sunday School."

He divided the subject into four parts: speaking first for an ingathering, by means of a house to house visitation, followed by a close canvas of families and individuals in the church; second, for training, in prayer, in giving, in church attendance and in reverence. Dr. Roads then discussed methods of teaching and plans for training teachers, and closed with some practical suggestions, concerning the shepherding of pupils during the week.

At the evening session Dr. Roads gave an address on "Essentials of an Educational Development of the Sunday School."

Word from a Fire Warden.

The village fire wardens wish through the columns of the CALEDONIAN to call the attention of property holders to the fact that more general use of wood causes the flames to find the weak places in stoves and chimneys more quickly than when coal is used. The chimneys also need more frequent cleaning out at the base, and close and careful attention to these matters will perhaps avoid fires. The recent fire on Pearl street was caused by fire dropping to the bottom of the chimney and continuing to burn until the floor timbers, close to the chimney, were overheated. As it costs from \$50 to \$75 every time the fire alarm is sounded it is requested that these matters receive proper attention.

New Publications.

The North Church Cook Book. Published by the Woman's Association of the North Congregational church, St. Johnsbury, Vt. Pages 205. Price of the Caledonian Company.

This book is published for several reasons and one of them is to supply the constant demand for copies of the North Church Cook Book which was first published in 1883 and which has long been out of the market. There were plenty of other cook books, but the people wanted the North Church Cook Book and in the second edition, which will be on sale at the church parlors next Tuesday evening, the buyer will find a model publication which will take high rank with the cook books of the world. Within its 200 pages are many choice recipes reprinted from the former edition, a host of reliable ones contributed by the ladies of the church, and some from other sources.

It is edited by Mrs. Walter P. Smith and Mrs. George M. Gray, who have spent many days and nights in making the book what it is. All the standard subjects from soup to coffee are well elaborated and the recipes are given in a concise and simple way that will delight every housekeeper. And the bachelors are not forgotten for there is a chapter of chafing dish recipes for them, prefaced with the quotation "The frivolous work of polished idleness." Indeed, the quotations are all as clever as the recipes, and were it not for spoiling the buyer's pleasure in reading them herself we should like to give more of them. But one more will suffice, that which accompanies the chapter on puddings and sauces. It is a trite saying of Josh Billings and it is especially applicable to the many who have unwillingly abandoned the luxury of a coal fire for green wood and old papers—"We should be keener how we encourage luxuries. It is but a step forward from hoe cake to plum pudding but it's a mile and a half by the nearest road when we have to go back again."

The doctors and nurses have contributed a most useful chapter on invalid cooking which is the closing chapter in a book full of good things to eat and drink. This chapter is followed by 35 pages of advertising which speaks well for the hearty support the business men of St. Johnsbury have given the work.

The book has as the frontispiece a vignette half-tone of the North church tower and is attractively bound in velvet, buckram, basket and crash. It will be sold at a price from one dollar upwards, according to the style of binding selected, and we predict for the North Church Cook Book as wide a sale as its predecessor.

Rally Day at Church of the Messiah.

Last Sunday the Church of the Messiah observed its annual rally day with special services. A personal letter had been sent to every family in the parish, and a most generous response was made to it. A large congregation assembled in the morning, at which time a sermon was preached by the pastor, Rev. A. F. Walsh; topic: "The Church of the Messiah; what it Might Do." Mr. Walsh began by quoting the words of Dr. Arnold that a church was an institution for making men like Christ, earth like heaven and the kingdoms of this world the kingdoms of God. The church is in the world to create conditions favorable to the development of character. The chief product of the church is manhood, to make it easy for men to live in righteousness. To this end the church must work and work by faith. Work to make the gospel principle the means of increasing good. Faith in the essential trustworthiness of the universe and in the absolute invincibility of truth. This is the labor of the church in its large view. That of any individual church is the same. Here is our duty as a church.

At this service Mrs. John H. Moore sang with much effect as an offertory, "Grass and Rose." The exercises in the Sunday school, the Junior and Senior Unions, were largely attended and a genuine interest manifested.

Death of a Well Known Plaster.

Mr. and Mrs. James Robinson were called to Northfield last week by the death of her father, Allan MacGillivray, which occurred Wednesday. Mr. MacGillivray was well known in Masonic circles, having received the master's degree at Clarencville, P. Q., 51 years ago; later he became a 32d degree Scottish Rite Mason. At the outbreak of the civil war he enlisted in the 7th Vermont, was a prisoner of war for a time and when his enlistment expired he promptly reentered the service. He was a member of the G. A. R. and had been a member of the Congregational church at Northfield since 1859. His wife and two daughters, Mrs. Robinson and Mrs. William Garvey of Northfield, survive him.

A Missionary Concert.

On account of the storm Sunday evening, Oct. 19, quite a number were prevented from attending the missionary concert that was given in the Advent Christian church. The excellent character of the program has caused a desire for its repetition and it will be repeated on Sunday evening, November 2 at 5 o'clock. A collection will be taken at the close in behalf of home and foreign missions.

Bar Examinations.

The annual bar examinations are now in progress at Montpelier, the sessions occupying three days, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. There are 25 applicants for admission this year including George L. Hunt and J. Colby Stoddard of this place, Louis E. Partridge of Peacham, (already admitted to practice in New York state) S. R. Boright of Richmond, a former academy student, and H. A. Black, of Newport, who was deputy county clerk here a few years ago.

Church Notes.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Odd Fellows' block. Sunday morning service at 10.45. Subject, "Adam and Fallen Man." Sunday school following the morning service. Wednesday evening meeting at 7.30. The reading room is open on Wednesday and Thursday from 2 to 5 p. m.

The pastor's subject Sunday morning at 10.30 in the Advent Christian church will be "The Completeness and Consistency of True Religion."

The topic of the sermon at the North church next Sunday will be, "A Hard Saying—To him that hath shall be given." On Thursday evening the Young People's Guild will give a Halloween social. It is expected that at the next meeting of the Men's Club on Nov. 11, Mr. Evans of Cambridge, Mass., will address the Club on his early experiences in the Pennsylvania coal mines.

At the Church of the Messiah the services next Sunday will be appropriate to "All Souls' day." The topic of the sermon will be, "All Souls Are Mine." It is recommended by the Universalist General Convention that "All Souls Sunday" be given to a consideration of the scriptural truth that all souls are God's children and that finally, by his grace attending them, they will all be saved from the power of sin and will live and reign with Him forever in holiness and happiness.

At Grace Methodist church next Sunday evening the pastor will commence a series of five lectures upon some modern forms of unbelief. The first will be upon Christian Science, the next upon Theosophy, then upon Spiritualism, Socialism and Agnosticism.

"Pilate's Perplexity" will be the subject of the sermon at the Free Baptist church next Sunday morning.

Monthly conference meeting this Wednesday evening with a brief bible reading at the opening upon "Our dependence upon the Holy Spirit." Important business meeting at the close.

Rev. Dr. James L. Barton, corresponding secretary of the American Board at Boston, spoke at the North church Sunday, largely upon his recent visit to India. Dr. Barton spoke at both the morning and evening service and the Sunday school to interested audiences. An interesting fact was brought out in the morning discourse as to the economical management of the Board's business when he stated that it took only 8 per cent of the receipts to pay the running expenses of this corporation which does business in every civilized and uncivilized country in the world.

A Polo Team for St. Johnsbury.

St. Johnsbury lovers of indoor athletics will have a series of roller polo games, this winter at the armory, this town having been selected by a Portland syndicate as one of a circuit of three towns which includes Berlin and Lancaster, N. H. The local teams will be composed of Mr. Robinson, a New York league base ball player, 1st rush and manager; Mr. Cote of Biddeford, Me., 2nd rush; Mr. Ryan of Bath, Me., center; Mr. McGrath of Biddeford, half back and Mr. Marshall of Bath, goal tender. Manager Robinson is a polo expert, and has formed a strong team and the circuit being limited to three towns gives assurance that the games will be frequent in each.

At Sumnerville.

Mrs. Fred W. Carr of Newport visited relatives here last week.

O. S. Cogswell has earned a place among successful deer hunters, having killed a buck in Victory Monday.

Harold and Clayton Bond spent Saturday and Sunday at Miles Pond.

Mrs. W. L. Russell and Mrs. McKelvie of Miles Pond visited friends here Friday.

Lee Noyes has rented the upstairs tenement of E. L. Hovey's house on Concord avenue.

Mrs. C. J. Lorimer of Derby was a guest at Charles A. Chaboureaux's Friday and Saturday.

Civil Service Examinations.

The United States Civil Service Commission announce the following examinations: On November 11, interpreter in the immigration service, deck officer and watch officer in the coast and geodetic survey, seed clerk in the department of agriculture; on Dec. 9, department assistants in the Philippine service, draughtsman in the engineering service, mechanical draughtsman in the bureau of engraving and printing. Further details of these examinations may be obtained of the secretary of the local board, Frank X. Lanctot, at the post office.

Golf Notes.

Four members of the Old Pine Golf Club went to Hanover Saturday and contested with a team from the Hanover Country Club in a 9-hole match. The Country Club won the match, 1 up, the score being as follows:

HANOVER. OLD PINE.
T. Worthen, 2. J. H. Brooks, 0
Prof. Patton, 2. N. C. Stiles, 0
Prof. Hall, 0. G. Sprague, 5
H. W. Tibbitts, 2. W. S. Peck, 0

This will probably be the last match game of the year as the course here is getting too heavy for match playing.

Henpecked For a Day.

In the little hamlet of Northsteadt, near Meldorf, a singular custom is observed annually. According to tradition, it dates back to the thirteenth century. During that era the hamlet was on one occasion attacked by a band of robbers, and the men of the village were soon compelled to beat a retreat.

Thereupon the women boldly attacked the robbers and not only vanquished them, but also took the leader and several of the band prisoners. As a token of their gratitude the men have ever since allowed the women to celebrate this great event by holding a festival at stated intervals, and on such occasions they exercise no authority themselves, but submit in all things to the will of the women.

The latter greatly enjoy their temporary supremacy and, as a symbol thereof, never fail to fasten a large wooden slipper to every lamp and chandelier in the hamlet.

BLACK ROCK.

[Continued from Oct. 15.]

CHAPTER VII.

THE FIRST BLACK ROCK COMMUNION. The gleam of the great fire through the windows of the great camp gave a kindly welcome as we drove into the clearing in which the shanties stood. Graeme was greatly touched at his enthusiastic welcome by the men. At the supper table he made a little speech of thanks for their faithful service during his absence, specially commending the care and efficiency of Mr. Nelson, who had had charge of the camp. The men cheered wildly, Baptiste's shrill voice leading all. Nelson, being called upon, expressed in a few words his pleasure at seeing the boss back and thanked the men for their support while he had been in charge.

The men were for making a night of it; but, fearing the effect upon Graeme, I spoke to Nelson, who passed the word, and in a short time the camp was quiet. As we sauntered from the grub camp to the office, where was our bed, we paused to take in the beauty of the night. The moon rode high over the peaks of the mountains, dooming the narrow valley with mellow light. Under her magic the rugged peaks softened their harsh lines and seemed to lean lovingly toward us. The dark pine masses stood silent, as in breathless adoration. The dazzling snow lay like a garment over all the open spaces in soft, waving folds and crowded every stump with a quaintly shaped nightcap. Above the camps the smoke curled up from the campfires, standing like pillars of cloud that kept watch while men slept, and high over all the deep blue night sky, with its star jewels, sprang like the roof of a great cathedral from range to range, covering us in its kindly shelter. How homelike and safe seemed the valley, with its mountain sides, its sentinel trees and arching roof of jeweled sky! Even the night seemed kindly, and friendly the stars, and the lone cry of the wolf from the deep forest seemed like the voice of a comrade.

"How beautiful! Too beautiful!" said Graeme, stretching out his arms. "A night like this takes the heart out of me."

I stood silent, drinking in at every sense the night, with its wealth of loveliness.

"What is it I want?" he went on. "Why does the night make my heart ache? There are things to see and things to hear just beyond me. I cannot get to them."

The gay, careless world was gone from his face. His dark eyes were wistful with yearning.

"I often wonder if life has nothing better for me," he continued with his heartache voice.

I said no word, but put my arm within his. A light appeared in the stable. Glad of a diversion, I said:

"What is the light? Let us go and see."

"Sandy, taking a last look at his team, like enough."

We walked slowly toward the stable, speaking no word. As we neared the door we heard the sound of a voice in the monotone of one reading. I stepped forward and looked through a chink between the logs. Graeme was about to open the door, but I held up my hand and beckoned him to me. In a vacant stall, where was a pile of straw, a number of men were grouped. Sandy, leaning against the tying post, upon which the stable lantern hung, was reading; Nelson was kneeling in front of him and gazing into the gloom beyond; Baptiste lay upon his stomach, his chin in his hands and his upturned eyes fastened upon Sandy's face; Lachlan Campbell sat with his hands clasped about his knees, and two other men sat near him. Sandy was reading the undying story of the prodigal, Nelson now and then stopping him to make a remark. It was a scene I have never been able to forget. Today I pause in my tale and see it as clearly as when I looked through the chink upon it years ago—the long, low stable, with log walls and upright litching poles; the dim outlines of the horses in the gloom of the background and the little group of rough, almost savage looking, men, with faces wondrous and reverent, lighted by the misty light of the stable lantern.

After the reading Sandy handed the book to Nelson, who put it in his pocket, saying:

"That's for us, boys, ain't it?"

"Aye," said Lachlan. "It is often that has been read in my hearing, but I am afraid it will not be for me what-ever." And he swayed himself slightly as he spoke, and his voice was full of pain.

"The minister said I might come," said old Nelson earnestly and hopefully.

"Aye, but you are not Lachlan Campbell, and you have not had his privileges. My father was a godly elder in the Free Church of Scotland, and never a night or morning but we took the books."

"Yes, but he said 'any man,'" persisted Nelson, putting his hand on Lachlan's knee, but Lachlan shook his head.

"Dat young feller," said Baptiste—"wha's hees name, heh?"

"He has no name. It is just a parable," explained Sandy.

"He's got no name? He's just a parable? Das no young feller?" asked Baptiste anxiously. "Das mean not-ing?"

Then Nelson took him in hand and explained to him the meaning, while Baptiste listened even more eagerly, ejaculating softly: "Ah, voila! Bon! By gar!" When Nelson had finished, he broke out: "Dat young feller—his name Baptiste, heh? And de old fadder—he's le bon Dieu? Bon! Das good story for me. How you go back? You go to de pries?"

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"The book doesn't say priest or any one else," said Nelson. "You go back in yourself, you see?"